Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.— Can they employ more hands for the translation of these things?

Mr. President.—The Hon'ble Members might remember that in my opening speech I have stated that Government has set up a machinery to bring all laws up to date. The promise was made only a few days back and so Hon'ble Members must give a chance for the Government to do so.

158. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the Bills passed by the Legislative Council and which are pending consideration before the Government with the dates on which they were passed?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—The Member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 157.

Extent of Agricultural lands auctioned by Civil Courts.

159. **Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.**—Are the Government aware of the extent in acres of agricultural lands auctioned each year by Civil Courts for realising debt, from 1104 to 1109?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Government consider that the time and expense involved in the collection of the statistics are not commensurate with the result.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—Am I to take that Government is the authority to decide the usefulness or otherwise of the information asked for?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Government have a right to weigh and ascertain whether the possible good that comes from the efforts made will well balance.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—Before answering this question in this way has the Government ascertained the progressive ruin of the indebted agriculturists?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The Hon'ble Member should then have put a plain question.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Sir, I shall change the form. Are the Government aware of the extent in acres of agricultural lands sold in auction each year by the Civil Courts? Can they at least give me the figures for 1109? This question was obviously intended to show the Government that the indebted peasantry of this country are subjected to a course of progressive ruin by the harassment of the creditors. Again I ask why the information was not given?

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Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—With regard to the progressive ruin, I must say the Hon'ble Member appears to be ignoring the fact that about the middle of last year a circular was issued by the Chief Court to stay the execution of sales of immoveable properties belonging to agriculturists coming under a certain category. Further as stated in the answer Government consider that the time and expense involved in the collection of satistics are not commensurate with the result.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Government have done something, we concede. It is to find out more palliatives that the information has been asked for.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I really do not understand what purpose would be served by supplying the information.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—In answering questions put by Hon'ble Members, do the Government take into consideration the supplementary question that might crop up upon that question and the probable injury or harm that might happen?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What injury or what harm?

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—In answering questions Government should give a straight answer. Are we to presume that in answering questions Government takes into consideration whether an answer should be given or not? Are we also to take that it tries to invent some excuse?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—It is not possible to visualise on what all supplementary questions in relation to one question that is set down for a day, answers will have to be given. It depends on so many factors, personal inclinations of the Members and various incalculable factors. It is not possible to foresee.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—Should not the Government foresee such things and prevent them?

Mr. President.— They cannot prevent supplementary questions.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—They can prevent supplementary questions indirectly by giving such answers.

Mr K. M. Kunhi Moideen.—Are not we entitled to an answer since we have put the question.

Mr. President.—Since the question has been admitted by the Chair to be a relevant question it is for the Government to

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say, whatever might be the opinion of the Honourable Member asking for it, they do not consider that the time and labour involved in the collection of the statistics are not commensurate with the result. They are entitled to say so.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—Will the Government be kind enough to first give the answer and then pass this remark?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is an abuse, Sir, to give such evasive answers. Not a day passes without such answers.

District Registrars—drawing of maximum pay.

160. **Mr. P. Raman Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is possible at all for a Registrar newly recruited to the Department to draw the maximum for a first grade Registrar under the present rules regarding grades and increments?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—The question is too hypothetical to admit of a definite answer.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—How many grades of Registrars are there?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.— Four; 60—80; 80—100; 100—125; and 125—150.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—How much time will it take for one Registrar to complete that grade?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—It depends upon each officer himself and how he discharges his duties.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—How much time will he take to complete that grade under normal conditions?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—25 years.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—There is only one post in the grade of 125-150. Therefore the question is whether it is possible for a man recruited to the lowest grade to get Rs. 150 before he retires? It is not possible.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I do not deny it is possible. The question is very vague. It all depends upon the man. Is it possible to enter the kingdom of heaven?

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Many rich men have gone to the kingdom of heaven; he may or may not.

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